

## Amusements, &amp;c.

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**—This evening at 8.—Hermann, the Freischütz.

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE NATIONAL EXHIBITION.**—This day and evening at 8.—The House of Representatives. Booths of the Twenty-third, between Fifth and Sixth-avenues. This evening at 8.—Leah, Miss Bateson.

**FIFTH-AVE. THEATRE.**—Twenty-fourth-st. and Fifth-avenue. This evening at 8.—The House of Representatives.

**NEW-YORK CIRCUS.**—This evening.—Grand Opening Program.

**NIBLO'S GARDEN.**—This evening at 8.—"Formosa," or, "The Girl of the Year."

**OLYMPIC THEATRE.**—This evening at 8.—"The House of Representatives."

**SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.**—This evening.—Miscellaneous performances.

**SOMERSETT ART GALLERY.**—No. 82 Fifth-avenue. This evening at 8.—"The House of Representatives."

**THE TAMMANY.**—Twenty-fourth-st. and Fifth-avenue. This evening at 8.—"The House of Representatives."

**THEATRE FRANCAIS.**—This evening.—English company.—"Sam—P. S. Chaffin."

**WALLACE'S THEATRE.**—This evening at 8.—"The House of Representatives."

**WOOD'S MUSEUM.**—Broadway and Thirtieth-st.—Open daily from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. Two dramatic performances daily. A. E. "Pell." A. E. "Wip-Wap Winkle" and "Mansel."

## Business Notices.

**TO THE PUBLIC.**

Professing to inform the public that he has opened a new store at No. 21 Union-square, west side, between Fifth and Sixth-avenues, which will be under his personal supervision from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. where he will be happy to see all who will favor him with a call. Where may be found a very large assortment of every kind of optical goods of every description and of the finest quality. All orders and repairs promptly attended to with accuracy and dispatch.

**WANTED.**—A Gentleman who can command, as needed, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, to join others in controlling a valuable stock which is about to pay over a hundred thousand dollars. Reference, by permission, to SAMUEL SINGMASTER, of the New York Tribune. Address W. W. W. 244 West Forty-second-st., New York City.

**Lady readers of the Tribune.** if you wish to see the most beautiful and the best pictures in New York in the city.

**JAS. EVERDELL, 302 Broadway.**—WEDDING CARDS, INVITATIONS, PROGRAMS, ETC. Most artistic in the city.

**THE "HARRISON SAFETY BOILER,"** in operation at American Institute Park. JOHN A. COLLIER, Agent, 40 Murray-st., New York.

**FILES—A SPECIALTY.**—DR. ORR, 21 Eleventh-st., near Broadway.

**THE SWISS MFG. CO.,** 35 East Fourteenth-st., Union-square. Importers and Dealers in SWISS CANTON GOODS.

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## TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DAILY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum. SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$4 per annum. WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$3 per annum.

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Terms, cash in advance. THE TRIBUNE, New York.

## New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1899.

Reports from Cuba are to the effect that a serious battle has been fought at Guimaro, the capital of the insurgent, resulting in loss to the Spaniards; that a landing has taken place in the West, followed by a rising at Pinar del Rio; that the Free Masons have been quieted by orders of the Captain-General, and that an extraordinary fraud has been discovered in the Custom-House. The Porto Rican deputies have appeared before the Cortes and asked for reforms. Gen. Prim expressing, in reply, the good disposition of the Government. Twelve thousand troops had sat down before Valencia, which was expected to capitulate. All Spanish Republican officials are to be dismissed from office, and all Republicans disarmed. The Cortes having passed measures against the seceding Liberals, some of whom have fled while others are hiding from fear of arrest. The Empress Eugenie has been brilliantly received in Constantinople. A Council of Ministers has been called at Compiegne, but no disorders have happened at the three meetings in Paris, or from the assembly of the small number of radicals who protested against non-convocation. Doctor Livingstone has arrived at Nyi on his way to the African coast, having discovered the true source of the Nile. Lopez is at St. Stanislaus with 5,000 men.

The Republican majority in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Iowa do not differ materially from yesterday's estimates. Admiral Farragut has suffered a relapse, and at a late hour he was not expected to live through last night. The President attended the Agricultural Fair at Frederick, Md., yesterday, and made a short speech. A fire in Baltimore has destroyed property valued at \$100,000. A uniform code of signals has been adopted for the use of the Army and Navy. A new counterfeit 730 has made its appearance at Washington. The 7th Regiment status for the colored rank is now ready for shipment at Philadelphia. The recent rains have further delayed the repairs on the Erie Canal.

A new Gold Clearing House is to be established. A case is before the United States Court to discharge a soldier because he was illegally enlisted. The man charged with robbing a fare bank denies the theft. The Providence, R. I., Infantry paid a brief visit to this city. The Congressional Committee on the Decay of American Commerce sat yesterday. A husband is charged with carrying off his wife's property from a store at Huntington. L. L. was robbed and set on fire on Wednesday. In the trial of Policeman Hennessey of Brooklyn, charged with killing a man, the jury were discharged. Walter Williams was sent for five years to the State Prison for robbing a man in Poughkeepsie. A brewery was burned in Newark; loss \$200,000. Thomas Fitzpatrick was killed on the Hudson River Railroad, near Fifty-fifth-st., last night. Mrs. Rosa Bertina of Third-st. was seriously burned last night by the explosion of a kerosene lamp that she probably did. Gold, 139, 139 1/2, 139 1/2. Temperature, 44, 54, 59, 54.

Even the Tammany managers seem to be impressed with the necessity of improving the quality and odor of our Bench. Judge Clarke is to give place in the Supreme Court to John R. Brady, now of the Common Pleas. Mr. Brady has hitherto maintained a good standing, and will prove a strong candidate. But it is by no means certain that Tammany will make the Judges this year.

A gunboat of the United States is watching the steamer Hornet, which is warned, by order of the President, not to leave port until her case is decided. This is as it should be. Let the Hornet make the most of her case in law; let her champions prove, if they can, that she was not fitted out in our own ports, and that we have a right to be considerate of her claims in a doubtful case; but let them not count upon the collusion of our Government in her escape.

The Porto Rican deputies, such as they are, have appeared before the Spanish Cortes, and asked for certain liberties and reforms. We dare say that emancipation is not among them, or we should have heard of it loudly. Hence, we commend to the colonial politicians the fact that Hasme-Pasha has just become President of a society to promote the abolition of Slavery in the Ottoman Empire. Can Christian and most Catholic Spain be more cruel than heathen and Mohammedan Turkey?

We hear of a fraud of ten million dollars in the Havana Custom-House, and wonder if His Excellency the Captain-General, and His Worship the Gobernador Superior Politico have had hands in it. To these gentlemen, lately accused in our columns of having robbed the country they were sent to govern, THE TRIBUNE owes an order prohibiting it from Cuban circulation. The order, we understand, was given at the instance of Minister Roberts, also supposed to be implicated in the profits arising out of the confiscation of Cuban property.

As several County nominations are likely to be made this evening, we venture to suggest, 1. That the German Republican Committee be consulted and counseled with before any candidates are named; 2. That nothing be done that will prevent or embarrass a combination

of all the elements of opposition to the corrupt and fraudulent domination of Tammany Hall. If that domination is not now shaken, the blame will rest largely on Republican selfishness and folly. With a proper understanding and accord among the opponents of Tammany misrule, its overthrow is certain.

It is great good news to hear at last from so genuine a hero as Dr. David Livingstone, the African explorer. A true disciple of muscular Christianity, not as it boasts and preaches, but as it dares and does, Livingstone has inscribed his name upon a continent. We may take his word for it that he has discovered the true sources of the Nile, and we shall await with interest the revelations which we expect him to make upon his arrival on the African coast. The telegrams report him at Nyi, but we suppose Kiyi, in south-east Africa, is meant.

Minister Silveira's reply to Gen. Sickles's note is printed. He says, and we imagine politely, that reasons of national dignity forbid the acceptance of foreign mediation in a domestic affair—though it is patent to us that our good offices, and not our mediation, were offered. The suggestion that the Washington Government should stop the departure of supplies for Cuba is intended as a retort courteous; but we submit that the Spanish premier, who says the insurgent party of the island is an indigent minority of the Cubans, either does not know whereof he speaks or knows better.

As the smoke of the battle clears away, our victories in the great States of Pennsylvania and Ohio are placed beyond a reasonable doubt. The majority for Gov. Geary is small—between three and four thousand—and considerably below the proper Republican strength of the State, while that of Judge Williams is about 8,000, as we tried to say in yesterday's TRIBUNE. Our latest dispatches from Ohio give assurance that the Republican State ticket is elected by about 10,000 majority, and what is still better, and of more importance, that we have carried both branches of the Legislature, thus securing the affirmative vote of the State for the Fifteenth Amendment. Returns from half the State of Iowa indicate that the Republican majority will exceed 35,000; but nothing else was expected of that State. She has been in the habit of doing such things for several years.

## WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

The Democratic party has just had a narrow escape from ruin. A few more such combinations as that which gave it a triumph in Hamilton County, (Cincinnati), would have made George H. Pendleton Governor-elect of Ohio. And, as there are nominal Republicans elsewhere as well as in Cincinnati who prefer the gratification of their ambition, their greed, or their malignity, to the triumph of the principles which they profess to cherish, such a result was within the limits of possibility.

Had it been effected, nothing could have stopped the nomination of Pendleton for President in 1872. The old Rebel-sympathizing element, which loves the Nation's creditors exactly as the adversary of souls does holy water, would have jumped to the conclusion that the pay-in-Greenbacks swindle was a card sure to win in the next Presidential contest. Just as the grand muster of Rebel Honorables, Generals, and Colonels, at their last National Convention, temporarily divested the Northern Copperheads of what little sense they have left, and spurred them on to their insane nomination of Seymour and Blair, so the triumph of Pendleton in a State so strongly Republican as Ohio would have convinced them the New Way to Pay Old Debts would lead them to power and fortune. For Pendleton is the responsible author of the Greenback scheme, and the man who should run for President if that scheme is made the party Shibboleth. Seymour does not believe in it; no more does Hoffman; and, if they shall ever assent to a pay-in-Greenbacks platform, they will do so under duress, and without heart or faith. Elect either of them President on such a platform, and he will find some hole to creep out of if possible.

Pendleton, on the other hand, means it. Had he been born in his ancestral Virginia, he would have been a very active Rebel; born in Ohio, he was as nearly a Rebel as circumstances would permit. In Congress from the beginning to very near the end of the War, he never made a speech nor gave a vote that Jefferson Davis or Gen. Lee could have objected to. He denounced "Coercion," he opposed the act enrolling and calling out the National forces; he fought against Legal Tender; he resisted and execrated every act which recognized and dealt with Slavery as the core and mainspring of the Rebellion. In all this, we believe he was honest and sincere. Believing that White Men only are fit to have a voice in public affairs, and that Slavery is the best condition for the Colored races, he would have been most illogical and inconsistent had he failed to sympathize profoundly with the Slaveholders' Rebellion. And there is not an unreconstructed Rebel in the South who would not hail his election to the Presidency as a practical reversal of the verdict recorded at Gettysburg and Appomattox.

Mr. Pendleton, though not a great man nor a genius, is a gentleman and a scholar. If chosen President, he would fill the office courteously and respectfully. Yet it is none the less true that his accession to the virtual leadership of the Democratic party would be a triumph of the worst over the merely worse elements whereof that party is composed. It would make such men as Brick Pomeroy, and Chaney Burr, and Clay Dean, and Sam Cary, (ugh!) the master spirits of the concern. They are the boys who would run the machine. Whether they would run it, no considerate, intelligent politician can doubt.

We repeat that the Democratic party has had a narrow escape from ruin. It may be beaten in '72 any how—we presume it will be—but it is not already beaten, as it would have been had Pendleton vaulted to its leadership from the Governor's chair of Ohio. This country cannot afford to repudiate its Debt, nor even half-repudiate it. The mere attempt, if formidable, would whelm industry, business, property, in measureless disaster. Our currency, our deposits in Savings Banks, our immense estates nursed by guardians, trustees, receivers, &c., &c., utterly forbid the thought. There would be a desperate struggle between the thrifty and the thriftless classes if the Pendleton platform were really adopted by the Democracy, but the result could not be doubtful. Thrift is never vanquished by Thriftlessness unless through treachery; and Pendleton's nomination for President would have sealed his party's doom. Our Democratic chiefs of course regret his misadventure—just as the Court of Spain was wont to put on mourning for some infant son of Prussia or Swedish royalty, the notice of whose demise made its existence then plainly known; but they will not

prove inconsolable. There is balm in Gilead, and some New-York Democrat is not nearly so far separated from the possibility of being chosen next President as if Pendleton had been elected Governor of Ohio.

## JUST RIGHT.

So much dust has been raised by the Wall-st. gold-gamblers routed on that memorable Friday, with intent to avenge themselves on the authors of their downfall, that we feel that the general and hearty approval of Gen. Grant's and Secretary Boutwell's action in that emergency ought to find authentic and commanding expression. The pretense of vindicating the President from the charge of collusion with the gamblers he broke, is too preposterous to provoke even a smile. He might as well be suspected of collusion with Lee in the Wilderness and at Appomattox. Gen. Grant needs no defense of any kind; but the People gratefully recognize his services in crushing out a conspiracy which was absorbing in baneful Wall-st. speculations the money required to move their crops, and reducing the business of the country to a lottery in which Fraud takes all the prizes and leaves to Industry but the blanks. We rejoice, therefore, to learn that Gen. Wallbridge, in the Louisville Convention on Wednesday, moved the following:

**Resolved,** That this Convention heartily approves the recent sales of gold in the City of New-York by the General Government, and that the thanks of this Convention are hereby tendered to the President of the United States for his prompt authority to the Secretary of the Treasury to take such measures as would prevent the extension of a financial crisis, which was already deranging all the channels of trade, and, but for such action, would have resulted in a wide-spread commercial disaster in every section of our extended country.

We trust the above will be adopted by the Convention; but, whether adopted or not, it expresses the emphatic sentiment of the great body of our people, and we thank Gen. Wallbridge for giving it emphatic expression. It will be heartily responded to by many Conventions, if not by that now sitting at Louisville.

## THE EMPIRE LOST.

M. Emile Girardin, editor of *La Liberté*, is an old-time acquaintance both of the Prince and the Emperor Napoleon. To the one, when counseled by M. Thiers, before his election to the Presidency, not to commit himself by promises of fidelity, M. Girardin gave the remarkable advice to be honest. To the other, when it was suggested that he might become Emperor, he is reported to have given the assurance that he would not reign for three months. M. Girardin may not be a true prophet, but it is certain that long ago he earned the nickname of *The Weathercock*. On this, and on royal accounts, we take more than usual meaning from his avowal that "the second empire is approaching its end," and that "its fall is inevitable."

Napoleon might have prevented what now appears a fatality coeval with the prostration and decay of his life. He might have Napoleonized France in a liberal way many years ago, thinks M. Girardin; and even so lately as in 1869, after the general elections, could have ordered a plebiscite instead of a senatorial election, and an amnesty without conditions, instead of one excluding such a man as M. Ledru Rollin. The French editor is well aware, doubtless, that Prince Napoleon, imperialist as he is by virtue of palaces and pensions, and republican in respect of an exceedingly liberal speech, was a pronounced opponent of the plebiscite, however earnestly he inveighed against a non-elected body like the French Senate making a Constitution for France in the utter absence of the representative part of the Government. The Prince is supposed to be a shrewder politician than the editor, and may have calculated that at best an appeal to the people was profoundly dangerous. Better the monstrosity of the Emperor's own chosen Senate voting a Senatorial Consultum, than summoning the people indiscriminately to a feast as so long a starvation. Be this as it may, the opinion of *La Liberté* is not shaken that the invalid Emperor is about to encounter the greatest crisis of his life. Is it still possible to avoid catastrophe? asks our French cotemporary of a man who "knows how to look 'revolution in the face.'" Should the peril of the hour neither inspire nor enlighten nor stimulate him, then he loses the remnant of his power, and, says M. Girardin, "the empire is lost."

He would be bold who would venture to predict at this date either that Napoleon or his empire can long survive the crisis upon which France seems to have entered. Peace remains with the empire, though the radical deputies, albeit not many in number, loudly and justly complain of the prorogation of the Legislature, though the press is unusually bold and outspoken, and though the people at large, as witnessed in part by the late Councils-General, are not entirely satisfied. The moment has arrived, in the judgment of the *Siecle*, when France must know something about her foreign as well as her home policy, and with all her proneness to rebellion be taken into the imperial confidence. There is to be a new empire or a new France; but as yet everything depends upon the pulse of one sick man; and the sick man is forsworn and the people are ready to forswear.

Balzac never pictured a more melancholy illusion *perdue* than that which seems likely to befall the believers in the promises of the Hansom Cab Association. Hope told a flattering tale of cheap vehicles, rapid transit, and wonder above wonders, polite and attentive drivers. Perhaps this last extravagant condition should have warned everybody against reposing too blind a credulity in the Company's pledges. The ambition of any man or any body of men in undertaking so bold a rebellion against the recognized maxim that "passengers have no rights which hackmen are bound to respect" ought, perhaps, to have been looked upon with considerable distrust. Yet many were dazzled by the cheating prospect, and with wishes fathering belief, listened gladly to the voices of the charmers. For a time, their faith remained unimpaired. So bright a scheme should prosper, might prosper, must prosper. But days rolled on, and weeks, and months, without the appearance of a single satisfactory sign to justify the long-protracted confidence. How many successive dates were absolutely fixed for the introduction of the cabs it is impossible for us now to compute. It is sufficient to say that the last positive assurance was for the 1st of October. Everything was ready, and operations were to begin then, without fail. And now the 1st of October are come, and yet no cabs. As eager desert travelers pursue in vain a misty mirage, so those who longed for Hansoms followed the receding phantom of the cheap and rapid vehicle with its amiable and polished driver. And with the same result. The questions now arise—Are there any Hansoms? Were now Hansoms ever intended? Or

were they but air-drawn Hansoms, Hansoms of the mind, proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain of some distracted speculator, who, with reason shattered by long and bitter suffering under the present system, conceived for his own benefit and that of the community a plan too daring for human ingenuity to accomplish, and too hopeless for human reason longer to entertain?

## LIGHT WANTED.

The assessment of incomes ordered by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue will afford the Treasury Department at Washington a good opportunity for collecting precisely that information which Congress will need as a basis for future legislation upon the income tax. This information, moreover, will shed valuable light upon the adjustment of taxation generally, since it will furnish a useful clue to the distribution of wealth throughout the country. The blank forms which the assessors distribute to persons subject to the tax contain questions which, if honestly answered, will elicit a mass of valuable statistics; but hitherto the only use of these returned forms has been to enable the collectors to make out their bills and collect the tax. Consequently the only thing known at Washington is the aggregate tax receipts from each district. Whether it was raised chiefly by taxes upon large, or medium, or small incomes no one can tell. Respecting the effect of the various exemptions, we are equally in the dark. In regard to house rent, for example, we all know from observation that the deductions on this score must vary from a hundred or two hundred up to several thousand dollars per annum; but we cannot even form an approximate estimate of the number of exemptions of the highest, lowest, and various intermediate amounts respectively, nor yet of the grand total aggregate deduction.

We know that it is contrary to the spirit of equitable legislation, and we have reason to believe the intent of the particular act applicable to this case, that a man of wealth and luxurious tastes, who is able to pay five thousand dollars a year for the rent of a commodious mansion, should be permitted to screen from the tax that amount of his liberal income, while another whose total earnings scarcely reach half the sum named, and whose circumstances compel him to be content with one poor room, is required to pay five per cent out of his meager surplus. That some such extravagant exemptions occur is certain; but we ought to know how many, and what is the aggregate amount of income that escapes taxation on account of the several classes of rents, from \$100 per annum up to the largest amount exempted. A similar examination should be made of the effect of the other exemptions. We ought also to have a classification of incomes according to their amount, and full statistics of the number of incomes of each class, and the aggregate tax receipts therefrom. Statements might also be prepared in which incomes and the revenue paid by them were classified according to the occupations from which they are derived, distinguishing between the cities and the rural districts.

For all that, we have suggested, and much more, the answers to the questions heretofore propounded by the assessors would supply the necessary information. The only thing needed is to have copies of their forms as filled up by the tax-payers, sent to Washington and there classified. The machinery for the purpose is already provided in the office of the Special Commissioner of Revenue or the Bureau of Statistics, and the machinery could not be more profitably employed than in doing this work. The returns heretofore have been too grossly inaccurate to be of much use for such a purpose as we have suggested, but the success of Commissioner Delano in other departments of revenue collection, justifies the hope that the assessment just ordered by him will result in a more complete exhibit of the taxable incomes of the country than any we have yet obtained. It will undoubtedly appear, when the facts are collected and analyzed, that the present tax bears very unequally upon individuals and classes. So general is the conviction of this fact, that Congress will certainly feel constrained either to repeal or to modify the law during its approaching session. Should the latter course be decided upon, intelligent action will be impossible without the aid of such information as we have shown may easily be collected; and even if the law be repealed the statistics thus furnished will be a very serviceable contribution to social science. We therefore suggest to Secretary Boutwell, whose province it is to act in the matter, if any action is to be taken, that he will render an important service to the country by ordering this work to be begun forthwith, so that it may be completed as soon as possible after the assembling of Congress.

The *Express* is muddled with regard to Blunt and Brooks. If G. W. B. was ever a candidate for Congress against Brooks, it must have been at some other election than that in which J. B. and H. G. were both candidates on the Whig ticket. We have frequently opposed J. B. but not in 1848.—The *Express* proceeds: "Mr. Brooks was ever hostile to Slavery Extension, and stood on 'Protection' where Clay and Webster stood, that is to say, about the very highest, not the 40 per cent average duties now, and often 300 per cent. 'Protection,' alias Bounty, in the existing Tariff. Such a Tariff as we now have would have made Clay's and Webster's hair stand on their ends."

—Are we to understand from this that J. B. is still an advocate of the principle of Protection? In other words: In framing a Tariff, would he, or would he not, impose higher rates of duty on foreign products than that come in competition with our own—say Iron, Woollens, Hardware—than on Coffee, India Rubber, &c., which we obtain wholly from abroad? Yea or Nay?

—J. B. asserts that "30 per cent" was "about the very highest" duty imposed by the Tariffs that didn't make Clay's and Webster's hair stand on end—those of 1828 and 1842. Here is an issue of naked fact. We dare the *Express* to print a table of the comparative rates of duty on Iron and Manufactures thereof imposed by the Tariff of 1828 and the rates now in force. Will you do it? Dare you?

It is undeniable that in some branches of industry there is more or less depression; but on the other hand one profession is doing a flourishing business. The present era is a brief millennium to lawyers. The railroad suits were magnificent; what the gold injunctions are worth to the fraternity may be inferred from the circumstance that Mr. Brown, the retiring receiver of the Gold Exchange Bank, has been allowed \$15,000 for two weeks' services. It will never do to give it up so, Mr. B. We hope you were not disgusted because it was not quite at the rate of half a million a year. They seem to be doing pretty well in the profession in New-Orleans. Mr. Bolden, the Attorney-General, under a statute "that he shall receive a salary of \$8,500 a year, payable quarterly by the State, on the warrant of

"the Auditor of Public Accounts, and five per cent. on all accounts collected by him," claims \$125,000 for collecting a large amount of taxes that were with difficulty recovered by prosecution. Of course, his salary as public prosecutor is also paid; and he has obtained the issue of a *mandamus* to compel the Auditor to give a warrant on the State Treasurer and settle his little bill. Now bring along the conspiracy cases.

Too many voters imagine that, because none but National Elections are interesting to themselves, no others possess sufficient political importance to occupy their attention. Hence the insufficient registration of the past two days. This is a delusion. No Republican, who has the welfare of his party sincerely at heart, should let a single chance slip by. Even if State Elections did not involve the weightiest interests on their own account, their effect upon questions of greater magnitude would be of the utmost importance. Apathy in local contests is eagerly seized upon by the enemy as evidence of general weakness; and the evil consequences of the inactivity of those who shrink duty on such occasions extend far beyond the event of the moment. The army which betrays indifference to success in its minor encounters, is apt to find its strength and prestige suddenly diminished at the moment of the grand engagement. Nobody expects that the registration of 1893 will approach that of 1868, though there is no sound political reason why it should not fully equal it; but a falling off so great as now seems probable, unless a vigorous stride is quickly made in the right direction, not only betrays culpable carelessness and neglect, but is ominous of future peril.

The question whether the City Hall Park shall remain intact or not has been effectually settled by the location of the New Post-Office. But whatever it may be, its present condition is a disgrace to the city. The gateways are insufficient, and the only crosswalk has been broken up by hacks and other vehicles. What right have these in the Park at all? Why should a private enterprise encroach on public property? But this is not the only testimonial to executive imbecility to be seen here. The grounds in the rear are a perfect epitome of shiftlessness—walks strewn with bits of bread and meat, corn-cobs, rotten fruit, and other refuse; broken and gullied pavements, where little pools of filth collect after every shower; tumble-down fences of many patterns, which freely admit the little Arabs of the Press to the dyspeptic grass plots; broken glass, municipal dirt boxes. If this land is to remain a public place, it ought to be made decent. Do away, if necessary, with all fruitless attempts at high art, or elegance, or landscape gardening, and let us have convenient, well-kept paths, and clean, trim grass plots, enclosed by neat fences. Let it no longer be a reproach to our civilization, that the vasty expensive public buildings of New-York, in the very heart of the city, are surrounded by a dirty desert, presided over by a solitary free-stone image, with a broken nose.

The late Mr. Patton, Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, recently sat as judge in a bribery case. Soon afterward, it appeared, in the course of the election inquiries now going forward all through England, that he owed his own seat in Parliament to bribery. Unable to bear the disgrace, he committed suicide. Does not this indicate in corrupt England a tenderness of public conscience which free America has long outgrown? It would be easy to name a hundred legislators in this country who hold up their heads under far more damaging accusations, and a score of judges to whom bribery may almost be called a regular source of income. But not one of them would blush to send a poor wretch to jail for offenses to which they themselves are regularly accustomed.

The Belgians residing in our City propose to hold a meeting on the 20th inst. in room 24 Cooper Institute, then and there to form a society for the guidance and aid of their countrymen who from time to time find themselves here, among strangers who speak a language which they do not understand, and to whose soil they have sometimes been lured by promises which have proved delusive. Their more fortunate countrymen will do great good, prevent imposition, and honor the Belgian name, by uniting in this movement, which has the sanction of their Consul.

The Connecticut Valley Railroad, from Hartford to the Shore Line Road, Westbrook, on the west bank of the river, is to be put under contract directly, and completed in 1870. Its length is about fifty miles, and its stock subscription already amounts to \$1,500,000.

The *Rural Carolinian* is a monthly magazine of sixty-four large pages, whereof No. 1 has just been issued, at Charleston, S. C., by Walker, Evans & Cogswell. It is cheap; it seems to be judiciously edited; and it is filled with such information as is needed to renovate and enrich the South. We bespeak for it a wide circulation and a careful perusal.

## PERSONAL.

A statue of Mr. Peabody is to be erected at Rome by order of the Pope.

Sir Titus Salt is the title of a newly-made English baronet. He is said to be a lineal descendant of Lot's wife.

An Irish paper says of the late Lady Palmerston, "Her father was a sister of Sir Ralph Milbank, the mother of Lady Noel Byron."

A splendid chance for somebody! The Count Joannes announces that he "can, by adopting a son or daughter bestow upon them the title of Count or Countess."

The *Detroit Free Press* says: "On Saturday that diminutive specimen brick of travelers, Georgia Fox, aged six years, whose parents reside in this city, was again taken in charge by the police, he having returned this time from Ypsilanti, where he had been 'to see Bill.' Scarcely an infant in stature, hardly able to speak plain, this lad has left home eight or ten times since last Spring, for the purpose of making long journeys, sometimes getting 100 miles away, and generally being sent home by conductors."

Bishop O'Connor of California, Bishop Martin of Louisiana, Bishop de Goebland of Vermont, Bishop Guigue of Ottawa, Canada, Bishop Tache of Red River, the Very Rev. M. Poirer, Quebec, the Very Rev. M. Chapard, Texas, the Rev. M. Cleary, Burlington, Vt., and the Rev. M. Duhamel, Ottawa, are all expected to attend the Ecumenical Council for Europe to-morrow, to attend the Ecumenical Council.

The Hon. Clarence Graves of England and Richard Grant White are at the Claremont Hotel. Judge Allen of Missouri, the Hon. H. M. Drake, North Carolina, Gen. E. S. Eldridge, Chicago, Col. A. H. Baxter, U. S. A., Va., E. F. Ross, Auburn, and C. W. Chapin, Springfield, Mass., are at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Gen. J. E. Mulford, Richmond, C. H. Latrobe, Baltimore, and Col. T. S. Loon, Washington, are at the Metropolitan Hotel. Viscount d'Abzac of France; Gen. D. A. Walker, Washington; Col. R. A. Johnson, Kentucky, and R. M. McLaugh, Baltimore, are at the New-York Hotel. Gen. Adams Bedard of the U. S. Legation at London, is at the Albemarle Hotel. Gen. F. H. Baxton, U. S. A., and Judge Allen, Elizabethtown, are at the Hoffman House. W. B. Bristow, New-Haven; John A. Green, Omaha, and H. Cornell and family are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Dr. T. H. S. N. and J. P. O'Donnell, are at the Brevoort House. Hon. H. J. Cato, Penn., E. B. Morgan, Aurora, and Alexander Cummings, Philadelphia, are at the Adlon Hotel.

## HOW TO REDUCE THE INTEREST ON OUR NATIONAL DEBT.

We gave, some weeks since, the substance of a letter from Mr. C. S. P. Bowles, an American banker in Paris, affirming and illustrating the practicability of funding our Five-Twenties in a new American Consol, untaxable and payable in gold, at a low rate of interest. Mr. Bowles is now in this City, and has addressed a second letter to Mr. Boutwell, giving fuller and clearer details of the means whereby such a loan can be placed in the financial centers of the civilized world. The subject is one of such grave and general importance that we give place to Mr. Bowles's new letter complete, and commend it to general attention. It is as follows:

FIFTH-AVENUE HOTEL, NEW-YORK, Oct. 1, 1899.

HON. GEORGE S. BOUTWELL, Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR: I had lately the honor of submitting to you from Europe the views of some of our citizens and friends, there resident, upon the high stand which must be taken with regard to our finances.

As a supplement to that letter, it becomes necessary to put forth some plan or means of accomplishing the policy therein urged upon you. It was thought wise, before exposing these views, to compare them in this country with those of the corresponding class of earnest men who, thoroughly awake to the importance of the policy about to be adopted, will now come forward in support of their Government.

Realizing that from a national love of retirement, or from a love of money, we have too long held ourselves aloof, we now remember that as a Nation we govern—or pretend to govern—ourselves, and are consequently identified with and must profit or lose by and with our Government.

Our wants less than generally believed. The amount of indebtedness for which we are now required to provide, is much less than is very generally believed. Referring to your last statement, we find the following amounts which may be left unchanged for the present and some time to come:

Bonds at 5 per cent. (issued before March 3, 1864)	\$77,223,000 00
Bonds at 5 per cent. (issued under Act of March 3, 1864)	194,557,300 00
Currency of 1864, 60-cent Gold Certificates, and Postal and Fractional Currency, Accrued Interest	\$36,573,036 00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$308,353,336 00</b>

5-20 bonds at 6 per cent.	\$1,011,339,956 00
	1,570,609,900 00
	\$2,581,949,856 00
Less balance on hand.	106,114,783 99
<b>Total debt.</b>	<b>\$2,475,835,072 11</b>

The 6 per cent. 1864s and earlier maturing bonds can be promptly met by our resources accruing before. The 1 per cent. 10-40s will not press for conversion even when redeemable, as their rate of interest is not so oppressive, and they, too, can be converted when expedient. The currency and other debt, while it remains thus limited, can be controlled with comparative ease, and diminished, if advisable, from accruing resources. There remains, then, \$2,000,000,000 of debt, with which we have alone to deal. Of this, an amount of \$200,000,000 is absorbed by the National Banks, and can be converted at will by Congress into the new bonds bearing a 4 per cent. interest. A further amount of \$100,000,000 may be provided for from the reserves and sinking fund by the time we shall be ready for the conversion. This would be at the expense of the application of reserves above noted, but could be afforded.

Thus we arrive at a residue of \$1,800,000,000 at most, for which Government has to come into the money-market of the world, including our own. That this reduced sum will be readily found on the lowest terms, should not on our part be our conviction, for our personal conviction is perhaps alone necessary to its supply.

THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN CAPITAL.

Regarding the rate of interest already dwelt upon, some points demand a further consideration. The payment of an interest rate even a shade or trifle higher than is just or proportionate to that paid by any other Government, would not only lower our national position and credit, but it would react upon all our future transactions and commercial relations.

It is useless and foolish to sentimentalize about our debt, and to insist upon being independent of the rest of the world. We invite foreign labor, and do all we can to get it; and capital is the counterpart or sequence of labor.

In the great South and West, we need men and money, labor and capital; and we must look to Europe and Asia to supply both. But they must not cost us too dear, and we must realize that in now fixing the rate of interest which our Government shall pay, we are establishing a precedent or standard by which all the immense international transactions of our country will be governed. We must realize that, in fixing the rate and term of a national engagement to which every one of us is a party, we are acting for our whole generation and lives, if not for the future. To see